



# NAVY NEWS



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Forward ... from the Sea

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## Gordon England Sworn In as Secretary of the Navy

*By the Navy News Service*

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Mr. Gordon R. England officially became the 72nd Secretary of the Navy May 24 after he took the oath of office in the Pentagon following his Senate confirmation. Nominated by President Bush, Mr. England brings more than 30 years of experience as a leader in the defense and technology industries to his new duties as leader of the Navy/Marine Corps Team.

Prior to his nomination as secretary of the Navy, Mr. England served as executive vice president of General Dynamics since 1997.

Mr. England outlined four key areas that he would address as Navy secretary.

"My agenda is to substantially improve our combat capability, enrich the lives of our people, swiftly incorporate technology across our total operation, and dramatically improve our business practices," Mr. England said in hearings

before the Senate Armed Service Committee chaired by Sen. John Warner of Virginia, himself a former Navy secretary.

"Each of these goals is interrelated, so implementation will be systematic rather than piecemeal. These efforts will be difficult and challenging and the support of this committee will be essential," Mr. England continued.

In his opening remarks, Mr. England expressed his appreciation to the president and to Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld for the opportunity to serve the nation and its Sailors and Marines. He stated his full support for the effort that the president and secretary of defense have embarked upon to build a military more relevant to the threats and opportunities of the 21st Century.

Mr. England began his business career as an engineer, working on the Gemini Space Program that paved the way for



**The Honorable Gordon R. England (right) is sworn in by Mr. David O. Cooke, Director of Administration and Management for Office of the Secretary of Defense as the 72nd Secretary of the Navy at a ceremony in the Pentagon.**

**Photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Dolores L. Parlato**

the manned flight to the moon in the 1960s and '70s.

During his career, Mr. England served as president of General Dynamics aircraft division in Fort Worth and as president of General Dynamics land systems division. In 1993, Lockheed Martin purchased the

aircraft division from General Dynamics and Mr. England continued to serve as president until 1995.

For the complete biography of Secretary England, go to [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil), select "Site Index," and go to "S" for "secretary."

## Best Practices Message Helps Career Counselors

*By Seaman Journalist Laura Goulding, Center for Career Development Public Affairs*

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — The Chief of Naval Personnel recently released the third in a series of six NAVADMIN messages designed to address reenlistment and attrition best practices. The previous messages focused on the role of the commanding officer and command master chief in the retention practice.

The current message, NAVADMIN 121/01, can be found on [www.bupers.navy.mil](http://www.bupers.navy.mil). The message

draws attention to the command career counselor's (CCC) part in keeping quality Sailors in the fleet.

"The command career counselor provides the programmatic background for retention," said Cmdr. Rufus Abernethy III, deputy director at Navy Personnel Command's Center for Career Development (CCD).

Abernethy explained, "COs and CMCs (command master chiefs) supply

the fleet knowledge and experience, while the CCCs serve as a liaison between Sailors and their leadership."

Abernethy said that CCCs should actively get involved with the professional and personal development needs of their Sailors. "The more CCCs are aware of their Sailors' concerns and issues affecting their decision to stay Navy, the more

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# VFA-37 CO Relieved of Command, Involved in Kuwait Bombing Range Accident

By Naval Air Force, Atlantic Fleet Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) — Commander David Zimmerman, commanding officer of Oceana-based Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 37, has been relieved of his command as a result of his actions during a live-fire training accident at the Udairi Range in Kuwait March 12.

Rear Adm. Michael Malone, commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Fleet, relieved Zimmerman after he faced a UCMJ administrative hearing conducted by Commander, 5th Fleet, in Bahrain. Malone cited loss of confidence in Zimmerman's

ability to command.

Commander Norbert Szarleta, VFA-37's executive officer, has assumed command of the squadron.

Zimmerman's F/A-18 from USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75), operating in the Northern Persian Gulf, dropped explosive ordnance near an observation post at the Udairi Range, a training facility located approximately 45 miles northwest of Kuwait City. The F/A-18 aircraft was participating in a routine close air support training exercise involving joint and coalition forces.

Six coalition military



F/A-18 aircraft

U.S. Navy Photo

personnel were killed — five U.S. military personnel and one New Zealand military member.

The squadron returned to Oceana, Va., May 22. USS *Harry S. Truman* returned May 23.

## USS *Deyo* (DD 989) Responds to Distress Call

By Lt. Cmdr Cappy Surette, USS *Harry S. Truman* Public Affairs

USS *DEYO*, At Sea (NNS) — The Norfolk-based destroyer USS *Deyo* (DD 989) responded recently to a distress call from MV *Caroline*, a 40-foot German sailboat 480 miles southwest of the Azores.

*Deyo* was returning to its homeport of Norfolk, Va., along with the USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) Battle Group when it received the distress call over the bridge-to-bridge radio.

The boat had lost its mast during heavy weather in the Atlantic Ocean and was low on fuel.

Lieutenant Gene Bailey, *Deyo*'s operations officer, heard the mayday and passed the call to the ship's commanding officer, Cmdr. Stephen Hampton, who

ordered his ship to conduct a search for the vessel.

"Once within hailing distance, we sorted out what *Caroline* needed and ensured the crew was safe," said Hampton. "Seaworthiness and fuel were the big issues — they would not have made landfall without the extra fuel my guys provided. Helping mariners on the high seas is part of what we do, and *Deyo*'s team was happy to help these gents out of a tough spot."

Another Norfolk-based destroyer, USS *Stump* (DD 978), launched its helicopter to monitor the situation from the air as *Deyo*'s crew moved in to render assistance.

"The whole destroyer squadron team helped out,"

said Hampton.

Lieutenant Commander Rob O'Neil, *Deyo*'s executive officer, led a boarding team to inspect the sailing vessel to determine if it was seaworthy and determine if it was capable of completing its journey across the Atlantic.

"Although the mast and sails were gone, the vessel was in excellent condition and was handling the eight to 10-foot seas well," said O'Neil.

Lieutenant j.g. Jim Reeves, *Deyo*'s Electronics Material Officer, provided the boat with a new VHF whip antenna while Boatswain's Mate(BM) 2nd Class(SW) Tyrone Smith and BMCS(SW) Tony Difolco and shuttled five gallon cans

of diesel fuel from *Deyo* to the sailing vessel. "It was a great Team *Deyo* effort!" said O'Neil.

There were a total of four German sailors on the vessel, two owners and two passengers. The vessel *Caroline* departed Bermuda 10 days earlier, bound for the Azores. All four personnel were healthy, however the two passengers asked if they could come aboard *Deyo*. The two owners were very tired from saving the boat the night before, but, would not give up their vessel and continued on their voyage after *Deyo* provided them with fuel and the new antenna.

See *Deyo*, page 5

# USS *Kitty Hawk* Completes Tandem Thrust '01

By Journalist 1st Class(SW/AW) Mark A. Savage, USS *Kitty Hawk* Public Affairs

USS *KITTY HAWK*, At Sea (NNS) — Fifty-nine years ago, a Japanese naval force grabbed a foothold in the Coral Sea in an attempt to conquer Australia. They failed and Australia remained independent. What if another power was to attempt such an invasion? If that happens, the United States and Australia will be ready.

Every two years, U.S. and Australian forces gather to rehearse this type of scenario in a bilateral exercise called Tandem Thrust. This exercise, involving more than 27,000 soldiers, Sailors, airmen and Marines, is designed to train the staff of the U.S. 7th Fleet as a designated Pacific Command Joint Task Force headquarters. It also trains the staff of Headquarters Australian Theater and the deployable Joint Force Headquarters in crisis action planning and execution for contingency response operations.

USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63), Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5, USS *Essex* (LHD 2) and the associated battle group and amphibious ready group (ARG) joined Exercise Tandem Thrust '01 on May 10 and recently completed their roles in the exercise.

"I thought it was a great exercise," said Cmdr. Dan Derves, CTF 70's exercise planner, from Baton Rouge, La. "It gave us the opportunity to work with our allies, to exercise skills that we had developed over the last few months in our deployment and a chance for us to learn some new things we needed to learn in working with the ARG and Army and Air Force units."

The *Essex* ARG's mission was to land Marine forces on the shore in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area while CVW 5 provided overhead coverage and protection during their insertion.

"The air wing conducted a lot of strike bombing and close air support," Derves said. "These are things we worked on in the Japan and Korea theaters. But they were not to the extent we did here. So it was very good for the air wing."

The surface ships also had plenty of activities and plenty of training to keep



USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63)

U.S. Navy Photo

them busy throughout the exercise.

"For the ships, there were some gunnery exercises, a lot of search, detection and engagement exercises and we gained a lot of experience trying to find and defend ourselves from the submarines," Derves said. "They were all great exercises that we don't see a lot of and we certainly don't see them all at the same time. So having them happen at the same time was really an amazing event."

The exercise also provided the opportunity for American Sailors to see how the Australians operate and for some Australian Sailors to experience life on American warships.

"It's my first time on a carrier," said Lt. Cmdr. Peter Kelly, from Maritime Headquarters in Sydney, Australia. "One of the things that really impressed me was watching the deck teams work and seeing how hard and long they work."

Kelly, a resident of Sydney, Australia, joined *Kitty Hawk* in Guam and rode the ship throughout the exercise. He stood his watches in *Hawk*'s Combat Direction Center.

"I learned how to employ a large number of assets to protect a variety of battle groups," Kelly said. "In my experiences in the Navy, we've always just looked after one group. Here we had to look after two or three groups."

That's the whole idea behind these exercises. Each military force learns how other services operate and they all learn how to work together.

"We learned how difficult it is to integrate staffs together and make sure we understand what we're doing," Derves said. "We also learned how important it is to communicate between the various elements of a war and the people doing the fighting, so we're all fighting toward the same goals."

"I learned there is a lot of benefit to doing this exercise with the Australians and the United States," Kelly said. "I think we both gained a lot out of it."

With *Kitty Hawk*'s role in the exercise complete, the battle group turned south and headed to Sydney for five days of liberty and relaxation.

More information about USS *Kitty Hawk* is available at [www.kittyhawk.navy.mil](http://www.kittyhawk.navy.mil).

# Navy Nurse Veterans Return to Pearl Harbor

By Lt. Cmdr. Mary Claire Lanser, Pearl Harbor Joint Information Bureau

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) — The Navy Nurse Corps celebrated its 93rd anniversary at Naval Shipyard Pearl Harbor's Naval Medical Clinic May 20 with six special guests: nurses who served at Pearl Harbor during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack.

Navy nurse veterans Lenore Rickert; Rosella Asbelle; Peggy Dye; Helen Entriokin and her twin sister Sara, an Army nurse veteran; and Bertha Roberts, all took part in a cake cutting by the oldest and youngest nurses.

The six veteran nurses, who attended the world premiere of the motion picture "Pearl Harbor" on May 21 aboard USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), were

amazed at how much Pearl Harbor has changed in the past 60 years. Helen and Sara visited Pearl Harbor several times since serving here during World War II, while Rosella was returning for the first time since the war.

Congress established the Nurse Corps in 1908 with 20 nurses. Today, there are more than 5,000 Navy nurses, both active duty and Reserve, serving aboard ships, with deployed Marines, and in health care facilities around the world.

Twenty-nine nurses were assigned to Naval Hospital Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, as well as 13 nurses aboard the hospital ship USS *Solace* (AH 5), and the

nurses assigned to the hospital at Hickam Air Field.

"These nurses worked at a relentless pace, trying to keep up with the constant flow of patients," said Capt. Frances Connor, director of nursing at Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor. "These nurses treated 327 burn cases on the first day of the war and worked three full days without sleep."

Dye remembered some of the severely injured young men. "Those boys were the real heroes, and they were so young."

Dye recalled being in the nurse quarters at Hospital Point when she first heard the planes and the explosions. She looked out the window at a Japanese

plane that was so close that she could clearly see the pilot's goggles. The next thing she heard was the chief nurse's voice on the intercom, with instructions to report to duty. Casualties began arriving immediately and the nurses continued nonstop with only brief rest periods for the following 10 days.

Asbelle's first recollection of the attack on Pearl Harbor was another nurse who stood next to her when the explosions began crying out "Oh, Rosella, it's war!"

During their off-duty hours, the nurses spent time

**See Harbor, page 5**

## Counselors, con't. from pg. 1

Sailors will maximize their professional development opportunities."

For example, USS *Winston S. Churchill* (DDG 81) implemented a general detail (GENDET) rotation program. This program exposes junior Sailors to as many rates as possible to give them a broader view and better appreciation of what other rates do aboard ship. Approximately 28 GENDETS are in rotation, and the ship is receiving excellent feedback from those who have rotated through a number of departments.

Abernethy explained that CCC who sustains open lines of communication with the command master chief is the most successful. CCC's should meet with their command master chiefs to align retention

strategies and goals.

Abernethy also said that the command master chief has valuable experience with which to build a game plan for the Sailors' career development. "Local commands that put a team effort into building individualized plans for their Sailors often meet with success. More and more Sailors decide to "Stay Navy" if they feel the command cares about their future."

USS *Carl Vinson's* (CVN 70) career counseling team, with the help of their newly formed professional development department, put together a retention fair/stand down for more than 4,000 *Carl Vinson* Sailors to teach them about opportunities of success and about the benefits of

continuing a career in the Navy. *Carl Vinson's* commanding officer spoke to the Sailors, emphasizing the importance of each individual to the Navy's success.

The stand down also featured Navy veterans who spoke to other Sailors about the benefits of staying Navy. One veteran said, "I came back in the Navy after being out for 14 months. I wanted to give the crew a more accurate perception on life outside the Navy right now. I came back in because I missed doing what I love — photography. I also missed the camaraderie and sharing my knowledge with others."

"Too many times we see the responsibility of retention fall on the career counselor," said Abernethy. "The

commanding officer is ultimately responsible for retention in the command, so it's more of a partnership. The idea is to have a positive impact on the Sailors."

CCD shares best practices with the fleet in both message format via NAVADMINs and spoken word via career decision fairs. The center also provides enhanced professional training for command retention teams and Navy Career Counselors, and comprehensive, easy-to-use interactive products utilizing the latest information technology to promote informed career decision-making.

For more information on best practices in the fleet and the CCD, log on [www.staynavy.navy.mil](http://www.staynavy.navy.mil) or contact CCD Public Affairs at (901) 874-2200.



**Deyo, con't. from pg.2**

"The less experienced passengers were embarked on *Deyo* — they had enough sailing," said O'Neil. "After a hot shower, some fresh clothes, and a spaghetti and pizza dinner, our guests are comfortably resting and looking forward to arriving in Newport, R.I., with us and catching a flight home to Germany."

"We were fortunate to be in the right place at the right time to be able to lend a helping hand," said Rear Adm. Jim McArthur, commander of the *Harry S. Truman* Battle Group. "It is our responsibility as mariners to assist those in distress on the high seas, and it is satisfying to be able to extend a helping hand and make a difference."

*Deyo* deployed as part of the USS *Harry S. Truman* Battle Group and returned to its homeport of Norfolk, Va., May 24.

More information about USS *Deyo* can be found at [www.spear.navy.mil/ships/dd989](http://www.spear.navy.mil/ships/dd989).

**Harbor, con't. from pg.4**

in the burn ward, going from bed to bed holding Sailors' hands and crying, praying and talking about families. Many of these Sailors' conditions were "terminal," having suffered serious burns from the flaming waters of the harbor. But there was a sense of peaceful inevitability of passing. Asbelle lives with this peace, and her children say she has passed this on to them.

Dye saw an advance screening of "Pearl Harbor" and gave it good reviews. "It was terrific," she said. "The movie gave a good idea of what it was like to be there."

After the ceremony, the nurses toured what remains of the Pearl Harbor Hospital. There, they carefully examined vintage photographs of the hospital and tried to recall where their patient units had been. Throughout the tour, between the group photographs, there was a shared sense of honor and gratitude between the veteran nurses and their modern day counterparts.

"These Navy nurses exemplified honor, courage and commitment," said Lt. Ralph Bradeen, who escorted Bertha Roberts. "They are heroes who went above and beyond and did what others might not have done."

**This Week on Navy/Marine Corps News**

- Look for the following stories and more on next week's Navy/Marine Corps News show:

- President Bush addresses the graduating class of 2001 at the Naval Academy, and reaffirms his commitment to the Navy/Marine Corps team;
- Secretary of the Navy Gordon England also makes remarks at the Naval Academy graduation;
- Corpsmen aboard USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) receive advanced medical training prior to their deployment;
- Sailors in Hawaii attend a very special premiere for the movie "Pearl Harbor."

Compiled on tape #2001-23, the show is on its way to the fleet now.

**This Week in Naval History:**

- June 4, 1942: June 4, 1942 – The Battle of Midway begins, the turning point in the war against Japan. The four Japanese carriers that launched planes against Pearl Harbor are sunk. Other Japanese losses included one heavy cruiser and 253 aircraft. American forces lost the destroyer USS *Hammann* (DD 412), the carrier USS *Yorktown* (CV 5) in addition to 147 aircraft.

- June 5, 1917: The first naval aviation unit reaches Europe during World War I to reinforce the French air force. The 1st Aeronautical Detachment arrives at the French ports of Bordeaux and St. Nazaire aboard the cargo transports USS *Jupiter* and USS *Neptune*.

- June 6, 1944: The defeat of Germany is assured during Operation Overlord/Neptune, the largest-ever amphibious assault. Nearly 2,500 U.S. Navy ships and small craft are involved in the D-Day Invasion.

- June 7, 1898: During the Spanish-American War in 1898, the cruiser *Marblehead* and auxiliary cruiser *Yankee* test the defenses of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by silencing a Spanish battery and driving the gunboat *Sandoval* into the inner harbor. Rear Adm. William T. Sampson seizes the bay for use as a coaling station and advanced base.

- June 8, 1830: The sloop-of-war *Vincennes* becomes the first U.S. warship to circle the globe.

- June 9, 1959: USS *George Washington* (SSBN 598), the first nuclear-powered fleet ballistic missile submarine, is launched at Groton, Conn.

- June 10, 1898: Supported by firepower from the battleship USS *Oregon*, a Marine Corps battalion lands at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba during the Spanish-American War. They are the first U.S. troops to set foot on Cuban soil. For the next month, America fights a land war in Cuba, resulting in the end of Spanish colonial rule in the Western Hemisphere.

Visit the Naval Historical Center web site at [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil) for more information about naval history.

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